

above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1-15 as follows:

1. (Amended) An image processing apparatus
comprising:

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[communication means] a communicator for performing
two-way communications with an image output unit [having a
function of measuring a condition] that includes an update unit
for updating condition information indicating a condition of the
image output unit and a memory for storing the condition
information;

an input [means] unit for inputting an image output
instruction;

an acquisition unit for acquiring the condition
information stored in the image output unit by utilizing the two-
way communications, in response to the image output instruction;
and

[color processing means] an image processor for
performing [color] image processing [for] of image data[,

wherein the condition is acquired using said
communication means in response to the image output instruction,
and a color processing condition of said color processing means

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is set] in accordance with the condition information acquired by said acquisition unit.

2. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [said] the image output unit comprises:

an engine unit;

a condition [measurement means] acquisition unit for automatically [measuring] acquiring the condition information in accordance with a change in status of [said] the engine unit; and

a storage unit for storing the [measured] acquired condition information.

3. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the condition information is a measurement result of a plurality of patches output by [said] the image output unit.

4. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said [color processing means] image processor converts image data into multi-valued data corresponding to a type of a recording medium used in [said] the image output unit, and performs [color] image processing in accordance with the condition information.

5. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 4,

wherein said [color processing means] image processor quantizes the image data which has undergone the [color] image processing in accordance with the condition information.

6. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a user interface for setting whether or not the [color] image processing is done in accordance with the condition information.

7. (Amended) An image processing apparatus [for making a network printer having a function of measuring a condition output an image via a server,] connected, via a communication network, with a host computer and a plurality of image output units, each image output unit having a function of updating condition information of the image output unit, said apparatus comprising:

an input [means] unit for inputting [an image output instruction; and] the condition information updated by the plurality of image output units;

[color processing means for performing color processing for image data,

wherein a communication is made with said network printer via said server in response to the image output

instruction to acquire the condition of said network printer, and a color processing condition of said color processing means is set]

a memory for storing the inputted condition information in association with each of the plurality of image output units;

a transmitter for transmitting the stored condition information to the host computer in accordance with a request for acquiring the condition information issued by the host computer;
and

a management unit for managing an image output job of the host computer.

8. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 7, [wherein said sever manages said network printer and] further comprising a second management unit for managing an image output job for [said network printer] an image output unit.

9. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein [said network printer] each of the plurality of image output units comprises:

an engine unit;

a condition [measurement means] acquisition unit for automatically [measuring] acquiring the condition information in

accordance with a change in status of [said] the engine unit; and
[storage unit] a memory for storing the [measured]
acquired condition information.

5083 10. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 7,
further comprising:

a user interface for setting whether or not [the
color] image processing is done in accordance with the condition
information.

11. (Amended) An image processing method for
performing image processing [method] in a network system to which
an image output apparatus, a server, and a network terminal are
connected, said method comprising:

5083 [wherein said] in the image output apparatus
[comprises]:

a condition measurement function of measuring a
condition in accordance with a change in status; and

a notification function of notifying [said] the
server of [the] a condition measurement result,

[said] in the server [comprises]:

a storage function of storing the condition
measurement result notified from [said] the image output
apparatus in correspondence with a type of the image output

apparatus; and

a management function of managing an image output job, and

[said] in the network terminal [comprises]:

[a] an input function of inputting an image output instruction of a user;

an acquisition function of acquiring the condition measurement result stored in [said] the server in response to the image output instruction; and

[a color] an image processing function of performing [color] image processing using [a color] an image processing condition in accordance with the condition measurement result.

12. (Amended) An image processing method for making an image output unit [having a function of measuring a condition] output an image, wherein the image output unit includes an update unit for updating condition information indicating a condition of the image output unit and a memory for storing the condition information, said method comprising the steps of:

[the input step of] inputting an image output instruction; [and

the setting step of acquiring the condition using communication means in response to the image output instruction,

and setting a color processing condition of color processing means;]

acquiring the condition information stored in the image output unit by utilizing two-way communications, in response to the image output instruction; and

[the color processing step of] performing [color] image processing [for] of image data in accordance with the [set color processing] condition information acquired in said acquiring step.

13. (Amended) An image processing method [of making a network printer having a function of measuring a condition output an image via a server, comprising] performed in a server connected, via a communication network, with a host computer and a plurality of image output units, each image output unit having a function of updating condition information of the image output unit, said method comprising the steps of:

[the input step of] inputting [an image output instruction] the condition information updated by the plurality of image output units;

[the setting step of making a communication with said network printer via said server in response to the image output instruction to acquire the condition of said network printer, and setting a color processing condition; and

the color processing step of performing color processing for image data in accordance with the set color processing condition]

storing the inputted condition information in association with each of the plurality of image output units;
transmitting the stored condition information to the host computer in accordance with a request for acquiring the condition information issued by the host computer; and
managing an image output job of the host computer.

14. (Amended) A computer readable storage medium that stores a program [which implements] for implementing, by a computer, an image processing method, the program comprising:

code for a communication function of performing two-way communications with an image output unit having [a function of measuring a condition] means for updating condition information indicating a condition of the image output unit and means for storing the condition information;

code for an input function of inputting an image output instruction;

code for an acquisition function of acquiring the condition information stored in the image output unit by utilizing the two-way communications, in response to the image output instruction; and

[a color] code for an image processing function of performing [color] image processing [for] of image data in accordance with the condition information acquired by the acquisition function;; and

a function of acquiring the condition using said communication function in response to the image output instruction, and setting a color processing condition of said color processing function].

15. (Amended) A computer readable storage medium that stores a program for [making a computer operate as] an image processing [apparatus for making a network printer having a function of measuring a condition output an image via] method performed by a server connected, via a communication network, with a host computer and a plurality of image output units, each image output unit having a function of updating condition information of the image output unit, [said] the program [implementing] comprising:

code for an input function of inputting [an image output instruction] the condition information updated by the plurality of image output units;

[a color processing function of performing color processing for image data; and

a function of making a communication with said